

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00674 181256Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 AID-05 IO-13 /092 W

-----190256Z 108001 /14

R 181110Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9056

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0674

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CF GB FR US

SUBJECT: CONGO-BRAZZA REPORTEDLY SEEKING IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH
FRANCE AND US

1. PRESIDENT BONGO TOLD ME MARCH 17 THAT HE IS CURRENTLY
PLAYING INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS
BETWEEN CONGO-BRAZZA AND FRANCE.

2. ACCORDING TO BONGO, HE HAS BEEN ON PHONE WITH NGOUABI
SEVERAL TIMES IN LAST FEW DAYS AND ALSO CALED GISCARD
D'ESTAING, RELAYING MESSAGES AIMED AT BRINGING TWO COUNTRIES
CLOSER TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN. IN ADDITION, NGOUABI SENT
SPECIAL EMISSARY EARLIER IN WEEK AND IS SENDING FRESH
MESSENGER IN NEXT DAY OR TWO WITH "DOCUMENTS" RELEVANT
TO THIS EFFORT.

3. BONGO SAID BOCG MOTIVATION IS ECONOMIC. COUNTRY, HE
OBSERVED, IS BROKE AND NEEDS CLOSER TIES WITH FRANCE
TO GET ECONOMY GOING AGAIN SO PAYROLLS CAN BE MET AND
DEVELOPMENT RESUMED. GOCB AMBASSADOR TO UN, FOR
EXAMPLE, CANNOT PAY RENT OR PHONE BILLS, AND ONLY
HOSPITALITY OF HIS GABONESE COLLEAGUE IN NY KEEPS HIM
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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00674 181256Z

WELL NOURISHED.

4. BONGO ADDED THAT NGOUABI HAS ALSO SPOKEN TO HIM
ABOUT RESTORING RELATIONS WITH US, BUT IMPLIED THAT
THIS HAS NOT YET BEEN THOUGHT OUT WITHIN GOCB.
PRESIDENT COMMENTED THAT HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
CARTER HAD LEFT HIM WITH IMPRESSION THAT USG MIGHT BE

OPEN TO PROPOSAL IN THIS SENSE. PRESIDENT CONCLUDED BY
REMARKING THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED TO NGOUBABI THAT GOCB
USE UN AS FORUM FOR ANY SOUNDINGS OF USG TO THIS EFFECT.
STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV00674
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770094-0341
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770346/aaaabnsn.tel
Line Count: 66
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 5f0aeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3068444
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGO-BRAZZA REPORTEDLY SEEKING IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND US
TAGS: PFOR, CF, GB, FR, US, (NGOUABI, MARIEN), (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY), (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f0aeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009